

3 Reasons Why Christians Can't Lose Favor

With God

Read Romans 5:6-8

1. Peace with God (v.1-2)
2. God's love (v.3-8)
3. Right relationship (v.9-11)

Intro:

I want to begin by talking about a missionary

named Adoniram Judson

'During his ministry in Burma, missionary Adoniram Judson was locked up in a foul prison for a year and seven months. He was chained so that he could move only with great difficulty, breathing hot, fetid air, and surrounded by the filth of native criminals of the lowest class. The jailers gave him no food, and he would have starved if his wife had not brought provisions for him. When her money was exhausted, she was forced to beg for food from house to house to keep her husband alive. Once thieves broke

into their house and stole everything that could be taken. Twice Mrs. Judson was dangerously ill, once by confinement and once by spotted fever.'

Prose, Ron. Preaching Illustrations from Church History (p. 193). Kindle Edition.

Do you think this family was favored by God?

I think most people would say clearly not!

When we suffer or are in pain we often think
God no longer favors us.

That he forgot us.

And we tend to question are we even saved?

Now some of you may not be experiencing as
severe of an affliction as Adoniram Judson.

Whatever situation you are in, if you have ever
wondered am I still favored by God?

Am I right with God?

This is what today's sermon is about

Why Christians can't lose favor with God

And there are 3 reasons

1. Peace with God (v.1-2)
 - a. Peace much more significant
 - i. War before it
 - b. No one gets excited
 - i. Peace in Antarctica
 - c. Everyone is at war with God
 - i. Proof?
 - ii. Romans 5:10 'enemies'
 - iii. Look at wrath of God on Jesus

1. That would've been us
- d. That's why justification = necessary
- i. 'therefore, having been justified'
 1. Justification = 'not guilty'
 2. Why can God declare ^?
 - a. When you trust in Jesus
 - b. You give Jesus sin
 - c. He gives you righteousness
 - i. Why?
 - ii. Isn't the Cross enough?

iii. God also requires perfect

life

1. Matt 5:48

Therefore you are to

be perfect, as your

heavenly Father is

perfect.

iv. Even though Jesus paid

for all of our sins

1. Past

2. Present

3. Future

v. We can't live to our
deathbed perfectly

vi. That's why Jesus

1. gives

righteousness

2. So that we can

enter into heaven

3. So when God sees

you and demands

perfection, he sees

Jesus not you.

Because Jesus gave
you his

righteousness.

3. That's why we're justified

a. Matthew 22:1-14

b. Jesus spoke to them

again in parables, saying, 2

“The kingdom of heaven

[a] may be compared to a

king who gave a wedding

feast for his son. 3 And he sent out his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding feast, and they were unwilling to come.

4 Again he sent out other slaves saying, 'Tell those who have been invited, "Behold, I have prepared my dinner; my oxen and my fattened livestock are all butchered

and everything is ready;
come to the wedding feast.””

5 But they paid no attention

and went their way, one to

his own farm, another to his

business, 6 and the rest

seized his slaves and

mistreated them and killed

them. 7 But the king was

enraged, and he sent his

armies and destroyed those

murderers and set their city
on fire. 8 Then he *said to his
slaves, 'The wedding is
ready, but those who were
invited were not worthy. 9
Go therefore to the main
highways, and as many as
you find there, invite to the
wedding feast.' 10 Those
slaves went out into the
streets and gathered

together all they found, both
evil and good; and the
wedding hall was filled with
dinner guests.

11 “But when the king came

in to look over the dinner

guests, he saw a man there

who was not dressed in

wedding clothes, 12 and he

*said to him, ‘Friend, how

did you come in here without

wedding clothes?’ And the man was speechless. 13 Then the king said to the servants, ‘Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness; in that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ 14 For many are called, but few are chosen.”

1. Wedding garment
= Jesus righteousness

2. Man without
wedding garment =
man's righteousness
3. He tried to enter
the heavenly after
party
4. The heavenly
celebration
5. On his own good
deeds

6. But God rejects

that

7. Thankfully Jesus

fulfills God's perfect

standard by giving us

his righteousness

8. Whoever doesn't

have Jesus

righteousness just

like the people in the

wedding without the
wedding garment

a. Will be rejected

4. So now that we're justified

a. We have peace

i. Not a ceasefire

ii. Pure perfect biblical

peace

1. Rest

2. Wellness

iii. No more fear of wrath

b. Personal introduction to
God by Jesus – ‘we have
obtained our introduction’

(v.2)

i. When you meet your
future wife’s parents

1. You can’t just
barge into their home

2. Their daughter
has to introduce you
to them

ii. Likewise

iii. You can't barge into the
king's presence

1. Need introducer –
Jesus

c. Finally we rejoice – “we exult
in hope of the glory of God’

i. Exult – confident rejoice

ii. Glory of God

1. Return of Jesus

2. New body no

more sin

e.Application

i. No need to be afraid of losing favor

ii. The war is over

iii. God not drop atom bomb the

moment you sin

1. No more war

2. That's more like North Korea

a.Ceasefire

b. One little mishap – back
to war

c. No you can celebrate

f. Question

i. In what ways do Christians live like
there is no peace with God?

1. Taking a break from God
after sinning

a. Trying to make their own
peace with God by doing

good for a few days then

coming back to God

b. Trying to avoid church for

a while

c. You don't need to avoid God

to restore peace

i. Because Jesus has

already brought peace

between us and God

2. God's love (v.3-8)

- a. God's love brings us joy even in
tribulation – 'exult in
tribulations..perseverance..hope' (v.3-4)
- b. Not only do we rejoice that we will
receive a perfect body in heaven
- c. But we *even* rejoice in trials
- d. Because we know our salvation is
secure
 - i. Even in the midst of trials
 - 1. Through God's love
 - ii. But you might ask

1. But if we are suffering
because God is disciplining us
2. That's not favor is it?
3. Hebrews 12:6-11 says
4. "My son, do not make light
of the Lord's discipline,
5. and do not lose heart
when he rebukes you,
6. 6 because the Lord
disciplines the one he loves,

7. and he chastens everyone

he accepts as his son.'

8. 7 Endure hardship as

discipline; God is treating you as

his children. For what children

are not disciplined by their

father? 8 If you are not

disciplined—and everyone

undergoes discipline—then you

are not legitimate, not true sons

and daughters at all. 9

Moreover, we have all had
human fathers who disciplined
us and we respected them for it.

How much more should we
submit to the Father of spirits
and live! 10 They disciplined us
for a little while as they thought
best; but God disciplines us for
our good, in order that we may
share in his holiness. 11 No
discipline seems pleasant at the

time, but painful. Later on,
however, it produces a harvest
of righteousness and peace for
those who have been trained by
it.

a. You see even the discipline
of God is God's favor

b. Because God disciplines
us out of love to help us
grow

iii. 'hope does not disappoint because

the love of God' (v.5)

1. We all experienced

disappointment

a. Small -> worse

b. When we meet God

i. We won't be

disappointed

ii. He won't say not good

enough ->hell

iii. Because he loves us

2. God's perfect endless love

keeps us secure

a.No matter what we do

iv. But how does God pour his love?

1. Through the Holy Spirit –

'who was given to us' (v.5)

2. If you have the Holy Spirit

you know God's love

a.If you receive an

engagement ring

i. You know the man

promises to marry you

3. Holy Spirit = God's promise

to protect you

4. Ephesians 1:13-14

a.13 In Him, you also, after

listening to the message of

truth, the gospel of your

salvation—having also

believed, you were sealed in

Him with the Holy Spirit of

promise, 14 who is given as a

pledge of our inheritance,

with a view to the

redemption of God's own

possession, to the praise of

His glory.

e. Don't have to worry about losing favor

i. God's love

ii. Nothing can separate you from love

of God Romans 8:38-39

iii. 38 For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, 39 nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

iv. God shows his love to you every day

1. By giving you the Holy Spirit
2. Who dwells in us forever

3. Yes God himself dwells

within us

f. Still not convinced?

i. Look at God's love for you in the
past – 'helpless..right time Christ
died..ungodly' (v.6)

1. When we look at the

thousands of years before Christ

a. We see the depravity

b. The impossibility of going
to heaven

c. People = unlovable

d. That's when Christ died

e. To show

i. Not how lovable we are

ii. But how great God's love

is

ii. Jesus died = you're his enemy – 'die

for a righteous man..God

demonstrates his love' (v.7-8)

1. Not common for people to

die for one another

a. Even for a righteous man

2. We're not even righteous

a. Yet God died for us

b. That's his love

c. Would you die for someone

who murdered your entire

family?

i. That's what Jesus did

ii. Every sin = pierces Christ

with lance

iii. If Christ died for you while you were his enemy, what makes you think he'll slay you when you're his friend?

g. Question

i. The early church face enormous persecution. Christians were fed to lions, and lit on fire as lamps for streets. This brought on the saying that 'the church is built on the blood of martyrs.' How has God's love

enabled Christians throughout
millennia to persevere through
horrible persecution?

1. Knowledge of God's love
brings tremendous joy
2. When you know you can't
lose your salvation, you become
fearless
3. Ironically, death often brings
more compassion than
resistance

ii. Application

1. When you are starting to doubt your relationship with God
 2. Remember that you cannot lose favor with him
 3. Because of the love of God
3. Right relationship (v.9-11)
- a.If you were on the wrong side with God
 - i. Makes sense to be afraid
 1. You might lose favor

2. He might just strike you with lightning as soon as you enter the church building

3. Like Zeus

b. But Paul says we have a right relationship – ‘much more than..having been justified. We shall be saved from the wrath of God’ (v.9)

i. If God loved you while you were his enemy?

ii. How much more will he save you
now that you are justified?

c. Paul repeats this argument in (v.10)

i. If Jesus reconciled us while we were
enemies, how much more will he
save you now that you are
reconciled not longer as an enemy,
but currently reconciled to God as a
Christian?

d. Now we rejoice (v.11)

e. There's never relief until the 'you win'

screen appears

i. But in Jesus we win

ii. And we celebrate

f. 'not only this..we exult in God through

our Lord Jesus Christ..through whom we

have now received the reconciliation'

g. There's the word 'exult again'

i. Confident rejoice

h. We have such a powerful

i. Jubilant joy

ii. In Jesus

i. The power of joy is so fulfilling

i. Psalm 37:4 Delight yourself in the

Lord, and he will give you the

desires of your heart.

1. For the Christian, the desire

of our heart = God

2. No greater joy/pleasure than

worshipping God

3. Because God made us for the

primary purpose = worship

j. Application

i. Joy of victory in Jesus is so strong

1. We no longer fear losing

favor with God

ii. Joy is the remedy to pain and sorrow

1. If you are going through a lot

of pain and suffering right now

remember the joy of your

salvation

2. Remember the joy when God first saved you and how joyful you were

k.Application pt.2

- i. When it comes to relationships
- ii. We all make sure we're on our parents good side before we asked them for something
 1. Make sure we didn't do anything bad recently
 2. Maybe say something nice

3. Make sure they're in a good mood/eat

4. Because we know if they're angry

a.They're not going to get it for us

iii. But now we are permanently in good standing with God

iv. No need to fear lose favor

1. Because we have a right relationship with God

Conclusion:

I hope you all wondered what happened to the missionary Adoniram Judson.

Here's what happened

'In the midst of all this, one of Judson's fellow prisoners sneered, "What about the prospects of the conversion of the heathen?" The missionary calmly replied, "The prospects are just as bright as the promises of God."478'

Prosis, Ron. Preaching Illustrations from Church History (p. 193). Kindle Edition.

Even though Adinoram suffered some of the worst trials and suffering

He was able to remain hopeful and faithful and continued his mission work

Because he remembered that he can't lose favor with God

Church as you go out this week remember that no matter what happens

That you cannot lose favor with God

Because of what Jesus did on the cross for you

Let's pray